2022 ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT & 45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Program Book
OPENING REMARKS
Joanna Allison, Esq.
Executive Director, VLP

DENIS MAGUIRE AWARDS
Presented by Cindy Palmquist, Esq.
Managing Director, VLP

GIDEON’S TRUMPET AWARD
Presented by Hon. Edward M. Ginsburg (Ret.)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Maura Healey, Massachusetts Attorney General
Introduction by BBA President, Chinh Pham, Esq.

MESSAGE FROM VLP BOARD
Andrew Cohn, Esq.
Chair, VLP Board of Directors
Introduction by Joanna Allison, Esq.

Q&A WITH MAYBELLE BLAIR
Introduction by Joanna Allison, Esq.

THANK YOU
William Roberts, Esq.
Vice-Chair, VLP Board of Directors

CLOSING REMARKS
“In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.”

— Thurgood Marshall

WilmerHale proudly supports the VLP 2022 Volunteer Appreciation Event. Congratulations to the honorees.
ROPES & GRAY

is proud to support

VLP’s 2022 Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event & 45th Anniversary Celebration.

We thank all VLP volunteers and congratulate this year’s award recipients.

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Gideon’s Trumpet Award
The Gideon’s Trumpet Award was established in 2003 to honor the outstanding work of a member of the pro bono panel of VLP’s Senior Partners for Justice project. The award is named after the book Gideon’s Trumpet by Anthony Lewis, which chronicles the establishment of the right to counsel in criminal cases at all levels of the American judicial system. The award honors those striving to provide similar access to justice in civil matters.

Denis Maguire Pro Bono Award
Denis Maguire, who served as the treasurer of both the Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP) and Boston Bar Association, personified the commitment to public interest for which Boston lawyers are noted. VLP established the Denis Maguire Pro Bono Award in 1989 to honor the work of outstanding members of its pro bono panel and to commemorate Denis Maguire’s commitment to VLP and access to justice through pro bono efforts.
DENIS MAGUIRE AWARDS

ALEXANDRA ROMAN, ESQ.

During law school I did an internship with VLP and really appreciated the culture and dedication that everyone there had. It’s great working with people who truly want to help others. It has given me the opportunity to help so many more people than I would have been able to with my office alone.

THE RELIEF AND GRATITUDE THAT CLIENTS EXPRESSED FOR THE WORK I WAS ABLE TO DO HAS STUCK WITH ME. I HOPE I’VE BEEN ABLE TO HELP MAKE A STRESSFUL TIME IN THEIR LIVES A LITTLE EASIER. I’D REALLY LIKE TO THANK THE WHOLE LANDLORD TEAM FOR BEING SUCH A GREAT GROUP TO WORK WITH AND FOR CARING SO MUCH ABOUT OUR CLIENTS.

ANTHONY CZAR, ESQ

My pro bono work has enriched my life personally and professionally. It has made me not only a better attorney, but a better person. It has also allowed me to show my children that helping others and being a good citizen is very important and that when we use our talents to make a positive impact, we’re a success in life. Each client has been a gift to me to be more tolerant, empathetic, and has made me more knowledgeable about different cultures. It’s an honor to work with inspiring and resilient clients to help improve their lives or at least their present circumstances.

IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO WORK ALONGSIDE THE DEDICATED AND HARDWORKING PROFESSIONALS AT VLP TO ADVANCE SUCH A WONDERFUL CAUSE. BEING AFFILIATED WITH THIS ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES I'VE HAD IN MY CAREER.
WilmerHale is most proud to support The Lawyer for a Day Clinic. This clinic is one of the rare opportunities to see a nearly instantaneous positive impact from your volunteer efforts. Clients enter an unfamiliar environment, facing the prospect of losing one of their most fundamental rights, and are forced to navigate a convoluted process where the deck is often stacked against them. To have VLP staff and volunteer lawyers in their corner—whether negotiating with opposing counsel, arguing for their interests in court, or just listening to their story—is invaluable to the clients. The dedicated and knowledgeable VLP staff ensure that both the administrative and legal service aspects of the clinics are clear, efficient, and grounded in best practice.

“I TELL MOST NEW ASSOCIATES AT THE FIRM THAT THE LAWYER FOR A DAY CLINIC IS ONE OF THE BEST OPPORTUNITIES TO GET VALUABLE AND GRATIFYING EXPERIENCES EARLY IN YOUR CAREER WHILE DEVELOPING IMPORTANT PROFESSIONAL SKILLS. AS A FIRST, SECOND-, OR THIRD-YEAR ASSOCIATE, THE OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE IN CLIENT COUNSELING, NEGOTIATIONS WITH OPPOSING COUNSEL, ARGUE MOTIONS AT A HEARING, OR CONDUCT A FULL-SCALE TRIAL ARE RARE. THE LAWYER FOR A DAY CLINIC OFFERS ALL THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPOSES YOUNG ASSOCIATES TO ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SKILLS FOR A NEW LAWYER—FEELING COMFORTABLE IN AN UNFAMILIAR SETTING.”

- WILMERHALE COUNSEL YAVOR NECHEV
The best part about pro bono work is when you have worked through a difficult case with a client, and at the end they say “thank you”, and you know they mean it. You understand that you and the VLP team have made a positive impact on their life and hopefully have given them strength to face the challenging moments ahead.

I feel that I have helped many pro bono clients stabilize their family situation, whether it be by obtaining child support for a custodial parent or securing overnight parenting time for a non-custodial parent.

Clients are often confused and intimidated by the legal system. They are grateful for and feel more confident because of the advice and assistance we provide. In addition to volunteering with the VLP Suffolk Family Law Clinic, I volunteer with Veterans Legal Services. My pro bono work has had a meaningful impact on my life. After working for corporate clients for many years, I find I really enjoy working with individuals, and helping them during what are very difficult times in their lives.
Kirkland & Ellis is proud to support

**Volunteer Lawyers Project’s 2022 Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event**

The Firm commends the work of Volunteer Lawyers Project, which helps provide access to high quality pro bono civil legal services to the people of Greater Boston.

*Using our legal skills to better LIVES, COMMUNITIES and OUR PROFESSION*
We are proud to support
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Nutter is pleased to support
The Volunteer Lawyers Project
And its important work preserving and protecting access to justice.
THANK you

To the dedicated and hardworking VLP volunteers and staff who help to achieve VLP’s mission every day

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ATTORNEY ADVERTISING
Since January 2015, Maura Healey has served as the Attorney General of Massachusetts, leading the People’s Law Firm in the fight for fairness and equality. Since assuming office, Healey has focused on expanding economic opportunity by addressing rising energy and health care costs, tackling student loan debt, and ensuring fair treatment for workers and a level playing field for businesses.

Healey has also gained national prominence for her leadership in combatting the state’s opioid epidemic, including expanding addiction prevention training for young people. Healey is a graduate of Harvard College and Northeastern University School of Law.
Goodwin is a proud sponsor of the 2022 Virtual Volunteer Appreciation Event & 45th Anniversary Celebration

We thank the committed volunteers who have assisted in their mission to ensure access in justice for all.

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Skadden is pleased to support Volunteer Lawyers Project and its 2022 Volunteer Appreciation Event.

skadden.com
Maybelle Blair is a former pitcher who played in 1948 for the All American Girls Professional Baseball League made famous by the movie “A League of Their Own”. She also played in the National Women's Softball League in Chicago in the early 1950s. After baseball, she worked for Northrup Aircraft where she became the first female manager of transportation. She travels the United States speaking on behalf of women's baseball. She's been featured on CBS Sunday Morning, Good Morning America, honored at Fenway Park in Boston, Wrigley Field in Chicago, both Angel Stadium and Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles.

Maybelle is an ambassador for Boston Red Sox Women’s Fantasy Camp, Baseball For All, Inc., a founding board member of the International Women's Baseball Center, Inc. and the inspiration behind the new Prime Video television series "A League of Their Own".
Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association

The Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation was created by the members of the firm as a commitment to the community we serve.

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Foley Hoag proudly supports Volunteer Lawyers Project.

Congratulations on 45 years of ensuring access to justice for all.

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Thank you to the Volunteer Lawyers Project and its dedicated volunteers!

We proudly support the important work that you do to deliver high quality pro bono legal services to clients in the Greater Boston area.

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To our supporters, volunteers, staff, and donors

thank you

Joanna Allison
VLP Executive Director

live like someone left the gate open
Casner & Edwards proudly supports Volunteer Lawyers Project and all of its selfless volunteers

Committed to Justice

We are proud to support the VLP and its work to provide high-quality, pro bono legal services to vulnerable populations in the Greater Boston area.

We join you in saluting the hundreds of volunteer attorneys who have provided exceptional counsel to VLP clients over the past 45 years.
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